

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

As requested, a new more descriptive title has been effected by the above amendment.

In response to the claim objections, claims 12-20 have been amended above so as to avoid those objections.

The allowance of claims 1-21 and the provisional allowance of claim 23 is appreciatively noted. As will be seen by the above amendment, claim 22 has now been amended so as to incorporate the limitations of provisionally allowed claim 23 thus making claim 22 also now in allowed format (and, of course, now being presented in lieu of earlier claim 23 which has now been cancelled).

The rejection of original claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Takimoto '350 is respectfully traversed. However, since this ground of rejection has now been mooted by the above amendment, it is not believed necessary at this time to further explain the reasons for such traversal.

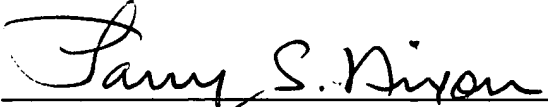
The Examiner's attention is drawn to the attached copy of an additional reference, US Patent No. 5,729,735 which was cited during examination of a corresponding UK application. A Form PTO-1449 is also attached listing this new reference as is the IDS fee for this stage of prosecution. Official consideration and citation of same together with return of a fully initialed copy of the additional PTO Form 1449 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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